

Limitedbrands

August 6, 2003

Federal Communication Commission
C/O Commission Secretary, Marlene H. Dortch
445 12th Street SW, CY-B402
Washington, DC 20554

FCC Proceeding: Docket No. 03-167

Dear Commissioners:

Limited Brands is a world leader in fashion merchandising and specialty products. We take great pride in using the latest advancements in data and telecommunications technology to improve the service we provide our customers and operate our business efficiently. Limited Brands operates more than 4,300 stores and is a major user of telecommunications services. We are staunch supporters of competition in the telecommunications industry and contract with a variety of vendors to receive the best technology and the best service for the best possible price.

We are pleased that we have multiple choices for our telecommunications services. There are many companies in the market today that are able to offer a full complement of local, long distance, and high-capacity data services. However, one of our vendors, SBC, is still not permitted to provide long distance services in the Mid-west. This prohibition seems outdated and denies our business the opportunity to receive a comprehensive bid from a major telecommunications company.

We believe the time has come for the prohibition to end. Ohio needs to follow the lead of the vast majority of other states that now allow their local telephone companies to provide long distance services. Having another major long distance provider in the market will stimulate even greater competitive activity in the industry, which we believe will ultimately lead to better pricing from all players through more aggressive packaging of services.

Sincerely,

Kurt Schnieders
VP, Enterprise Technology Operations

